GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1248
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2016
Facilities to Tourists at Rohtang
Kushwaha Shri Ram Kumar Sharma

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Green Tribunal has banned any kind of tourist activity in and around Rohtang Pass;
(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
(c) the steps taken by the Government to facilitate the tourists visiting Rohtang Pass?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The Honourable National Green Tribunal has banned tourist activities in and around Rohtang Pass vide order dated 6th July, 2015, The tourism related activities i.e. Snow Scooters, All Terrain Vehicles, Horse Riding, Paragliders, Snow biking, Tyre tube gaming, etc. have been completely banned in Rohtang, Marhi and Solang area.

According to the said order dated 6th July, 2015, following directions were issued to the State of Himachal Pradesh:

(i) The Deputy Commissioner, Kullu and SP, Kullu shall ensure that no snow scooters, All Terrain Vehicle's, horse riding, paragliders, snow biking, tyre tube gaming, will be permitted at Solang, Rohtang and Marhi. All these activities shall be prohibited forthwith.
(ii) No two wheeler vehicles shall be permitted to go to Rohtang Pass.
(iii) No commercial activity, dhabas, Khokas, Rehdies or any other kind of activity of eating would be carried out at Rohtang Pass. The Dhabas existing at Rohtang Pass shall be removed by the Deputy Commissioner, Kullu and SP, Kullu forthwith.
(iv) It will be ensured that the shops operating at Marhi would carry on their business activities in terms of the directions of the Tribunal. It will be ensured that no waste of any kind is permitted to be spread around Rohtang Pass and in fact, people should not even be permitted to carry with any packed eatables, plastic or other allied material to Rohtang Pass. Except water, everything should be prohibited.
(v) The Deputy Commissioner, Kullu and SP, Kullu and Municipal Council, Manali shall ensure that toilets are provided at Rohtang Pass and are maintained hygienically, and properly, without delay and default.

(c): The State Government of Himachal Pradesh has informed that they have taken the following steps to facilitate tourists visiting Rohtang Pass:-

1. Check posts have been installed at 4 places where in addition to checking of vehicles/ collection of charges, necessary information is being provided to facilitate the tourists. Online permits are also being issued for the convenience of tourists to visit Rohtang.
2. A properly designed eco friendly market is being set up at Marhi for the benefit of tourists for which land measuring 00-56-25 hectares has been transferred in the name of Department of Tourism for the construction of Eco Friendly market at Marhi.
3. The Department of Tourism and Civil Aviation has entered into an agreement with M/s Manali Ropeway Pvt. Ltd. on 21-10-2015 for construction of ropeway from Palchan to Rohtang and the preliminaries are being completed.
4. Proper sanitation facilities are being provided at Rohtang Pass, Marhi, Solang Nallah and Gulaba.

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